

## **Renewable Energy Committee**

Thursday, June 18 2015– 3:00 P.M.

Polk County Government Center, County Board Room  
100 Polk Plaza, Balsam Lake, WI 54810

- Call to order
- Approve agenda
- Approve 5/28 minutes
- Public comments
- Potential Solar Study – contract status
- Review REC enabling resolutions
- Update on OEI 25 X 2025 plan
- Member comments
  
- Set next meeting date
- Adjourn

(Agenda items may not be presented in this order)

This meeting is open to the public according to Wisconsin State Statute 19.83. Persons with disabilities wishing to attend and/or participate are asked to notify the County Clerk's office (715-485-9226) at least 24 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting time so all reasonable accommodations can be made. Requests are confidential

## Renewable Energy Committee Meeting

Held Thursday, May 28, 2015 at Polk County Government Center

100 Polk County Plaza, Balsam Lake, WI 54810

### Minutes:

Members Present: Craig Moriak, Marlin Baillargeon, Timm Johnson, Jay Luke, Marvin Casperson, Jeff Peterson, and Dave Muller.

Others Present: Tim Anderson, County Planner, and Dana Frey, County Administrator.

Chair Timm Johnson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. with a quorum present. The agenda was approved without additions on a motion by Marlin Baillargeon and Craig Moriak. Minutes of the April 24<sup>th</sup> meeting as written were approved by a motion from Jay Luke and Marvin Casperson. Jeff Peterson requested that the minutes from previous meetings be posted on the county website for public viewing and transparency.

Dana Frey presented his analysis of the E3 Coalition proposal by Kurt Reinhold. Frey commented that he was disappointed by the proposal and proceeded with a Power Point cost benefit analysis that revealed major flaws using Reinhold's numbers on costs of the solar project and potential benefits both short and long-term. Frey stated that the proposal included additional energy-efficient items like LED lighting and laundry retrofit. Both he and our committee expected a solar-only proposal.

The E3 Coalition proposal made major assumptions that Frey pointed out were erroneous and misleading. Among them, factors like 3% annual energy costs saved tied to inflation instead of a verifiable number of 1.6% over the recent past. The projected savings to the county totaled \$462,000 over 5 years with no guarantee of either costs or benefits to the county. No panel deterioration was included over the life of the equipment installed. The bottom line was an after-tax rate of return of only .5% which no investor would do.

With public and private partnerships like this, Frey stated, find the risk, pin it down, and get the risk covered in the contract. Costs and benefits must be guaranteed for 10 years and if not, he recommends not accepting the proposal.

After discussion, Frey left the meeting and Dave Muller contacted Kurt Reinhold by phone to address these concerns. Reinhold agreed to send Frey a copy of his contract proposal for administrative review before the next meeting. Timm Johnson will try to have a conversation with Deb Peterson, Building Director in the next few weeks. Dave Muller will contact the city of Monona for an update on their solar project savings after 18 months of operation. Also, he will try to obtain a copy of their original contract with E3 Coalition for committee review.

Chair Johnson scheduled the next meeting for June 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. at the Government Center.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully,

Dave Muller, Secretary